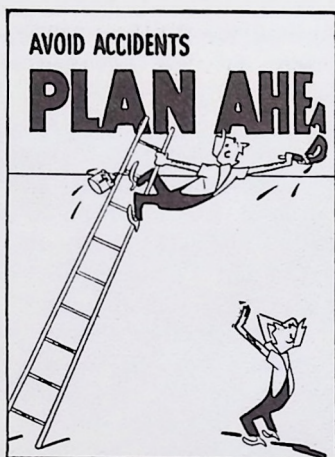


## MOUSE vs. PLYWOOD

The mouse won a brief decision over the boys in the plywood plant on the morning of December 30th. Seems the plucky little rascal found his way into the switch panel which controls the electrical circuits to the air compressors. Of course when the shorted switches stopped the air compressors, the entire mill was shut down as every machine depends on air for all or part of the operation. It was about 15 minutes before the trouble was found and corrected.

—○—



## MARKET NEWS

The devastating snow and sub-zero cold in the midwest and eastern states has shook up the market situation to a great degree . . . certainly construction and transportation has suffered from these adverse conditions and it will be some time before a recovery from the severe weather conditions plus many holiday interruptions will show in the market.

Naturally some price cutting is evident during such critical times but generally the outlook is fair for 1964, after present hurdles have been overcome.

—○—

## MILESTONES OF 1963

Another year has slipped by, but not without leaving some marks by which it can be remembered.

In view of the labor relations problems faced in other areas, one of the most important benefits from 1963 for both the employees and the company was the un-interrupted work schedule providing full employment throughout the year.

The first full year of operation for the plywood plant at its enlarged capacity saw some excellent production figures marked up. Of course, there were some "bugs," but all in all, it was a good production year.

From the employees standpoint, 1963 could be considered one of the finest. The new pension plan for all non-bargaining employees is one of the best of its kind in existence. The employees do not contribute one cent of their pay, nor do they sacrifice other fringe benefits yet the plan provides a higher rate of retirement pay than many other plans.

Prepaid Mercy Flights service for all employees was arranged by Medford Corporation President, Alger Chaney . . . at no cost to any employee.

1963 saw the Selective Logging plan in full operation, providing a timber stand to support production of our plants in the future.

Well over 1400 employees and their families attended the first MEDCO picnic in many years. It was a unanimous opinion that this was one of the best picnics any company ever had.

Although they are getting smaller logs, the sawmill has maintained and even improved on their production volume.

MEDCO News and Views celebrated its first birthday with the December issue. We hope you have found some information or enjoyment from it. We will welcome your ideas, news items and suggestions at any time.

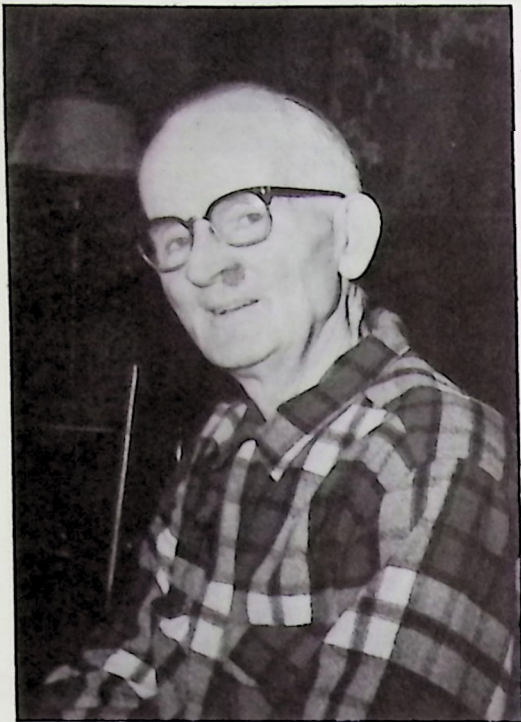
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This hungry-lookin' bunch was shot at the plywood plant as they lined up to receive their turkey or ham before Christmas. To bad we couldn't have had a picture after they had just pushed back from the table after Christmas dinner.



## OLDTIMERS RETIRE



**Melvin Pieper**

Melvin "Barney" Pieper first started work at the sawmill in 1928 when it was still the Owen-Oregon Lumber Company.

Barney wasn't feeling very well when the editor visited him at his home on Bennett Street in Medford as he has had surgery since he took his sick leave in June of this year. He did say that he was very fond of music and made several references to the piano which stood in the living room. He said it seemed funny not to be going to work and when the whistle blew . . . he sure would like to be there.

You have all the best wishes from your fellow workers Barney and when you are feeling up to it, drop around and say "Hello."

## HERE AND THERE

The Northwest 80-D has been equipped with air tongs and moved back to the Desert Pond for loading operations during the times when the woods cannot supply logs. The air tongs make for faster and more positive handling of logs on this particular log handling job.

Intuition: That strange instinct that tells a woman she's right whether she is or not.



**John W. LaTourrette**

John was born in Phoenix, Arizona and came to Medford in 1918. His first job in the mill was at the old Brownlee-Olds in 1923 and when it became Owen-Oregon Lumber Company and the new plant was built . . . John pulled the first board.

An extended trip and a session at operating a service station took John off the job during the Owen-Oregon days but he was back at the mill when Owen-Oregon ceased operations in 1931. In those days the green chain was contracted.

After Medford Corporation assumed the operation, John returned to work as an extra man but soon made regular status. This was in 1935 and John has missed FOUR days because of illness since that time.

Mrs. LaTourrette is a native of the Rogue Valley and their three children all graduated from Medford High School. They now have eight grandchildren.

A trip into California and Arizona is planned in the near future with no worry about hurrying back to the job.

A fellow we know says he is putting all of his money into taxes because it's the only thing sure to go up.

The best place to find out what shape the country's in is at the beach.



**Leonard Ray**

Leonard came to the Rogue Valley as a boy in 1909 and attended the Oak Grove school when it was only a one-room affair. He later attended the Jackson School the first year it was open.

When World War I came, Leonard served with the 69th Division Heavy Artillery in France.

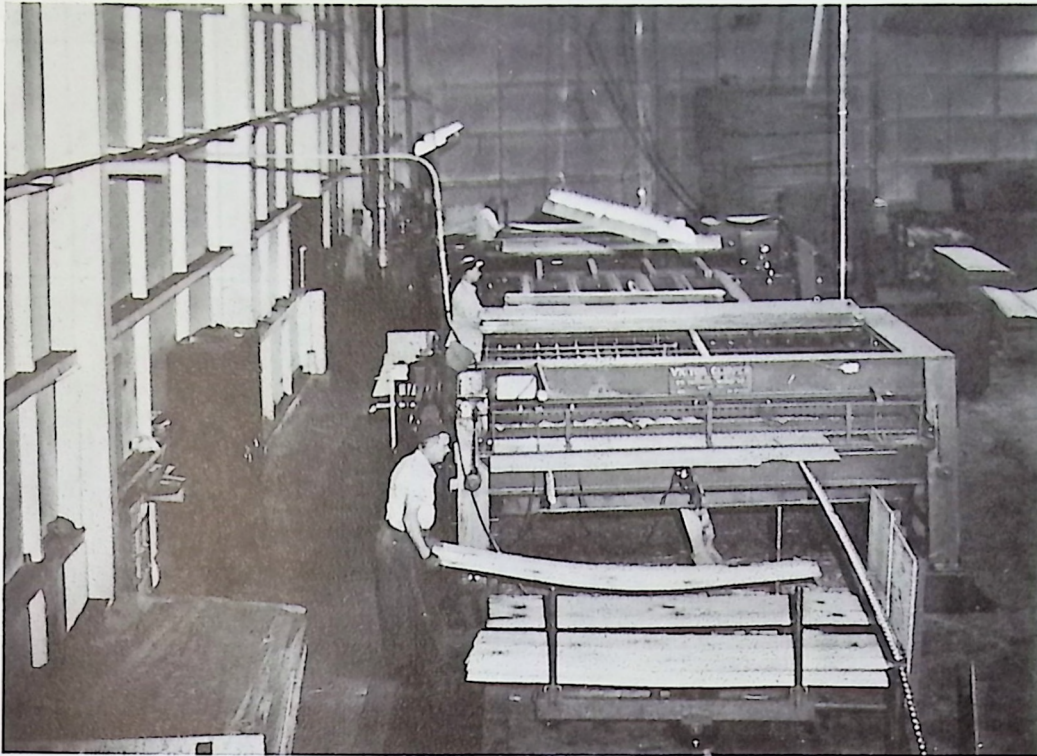
Upon his return to the Rogue Valley he worked for the State Highway Department running a transit when the road was laid out over Sexton Mountain in 1919. He was married in 1920 and promptly went to Detroit, Michigan where he worked for the Detroit Police Dept. but returned to Medford in 1925. He went to work for the Owen-Oregon Company as maintenance electrician when the mill was being converted from steam to electricity. He left this job in July of 1927 to buy an orchard and associate with Fruit Growers Exchange. This proved to be a bad venture so he then gave the furniture business a try but returned to the Owen-Oregon Company in 1931 and stayed through until the present.

Leonard and Mrs. Ray have two children, both living in Oregon. Their daughter owns and operates a business college in Roseburg and their son is employed by the Oregon Fish and Game Commission and lives in Central Point. The Leonard Rays boast four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

"Unfortunately, by the time most men learn to behave themselves, they're too old to do anything else."



# EDGE-GLUER AND PATCHERS



The edge-gluer shown has Parker Davis as offbearer (nearest camera), Elmont Livingston as the feeder (center) and Jack Vance is operating the jointer in the background.



Trading stamps often prove useful for getting items you wouldn't buy even if you had the money.

Two of the Raimann panel patching machines are shown here with operators Al Maderios (left) and Don Burns (right).

The sweetest music to a woman's ear is another woman playing second fiddle.

The sage who said "Go West" never had to figure out how to do it on a cloverleaf intersection.

Salvaging odd pieces of veneer and gluing them together is the job of the edge-gluer. Operating the jointer that prepares the veneer for the gluing is Jack Vance on days, Tommy Graves on swing and Roland Hogue on graveyard.

Feeding the edge-gluer on day shift is Elmont Livingston and offbearer is Parker Davis. The swing shift has Raymond Hogue substituting for Ronald Harper (who has been injured) as feeder and Steve Lako is the offbearer.

On the graveyard shift, the feeder is John Rhodes and the offbearer is Alfred Hines.

Operating the Raimann Panel Patcher on the graveyard shift: Robert Hammond, James Conger, David Nienow and Wesley France. This shift has Michael McNeal running the jitney, Roy Jenkins as clipperman and Teddy Roy is the dry end floorman.

On the swing shift, the Raimann operators are: Douglas Davis, Calvin Reisinger, Richard Gavin, Carroll Warren and William Hunt. The clipperman for swing shift is Gordon Atterbury and the dry end floorman is Donald Baker.

Jack Barrett, Alfred Maderios, Donald Burns, Richard Holley and Michael Lowery are the Raimann operators on the day shift. Day shift clipperman is Gene Rotar and dry end floorman for this shift is Cecil Henson.



"A book on first aid, please.... and hurry!"

**SMART GIRL:** One who knows how to play tennis, golf, piano and dumb.

A recession is when your neighbor loses his job. A depression is when you lose yours.



## WEDDING BELLS

On December 21st at the First Methodist Church in Medford, Keith Clogston and Barbara Snook were married. The ceremony was followed by a wedding trip to the Oregon Coast.

Acting as best man was George Langlois, a fellow employee in the plywood plant with the groom and the bridesmaid was Wanda Johnson.

The newlyweds are making their home in Ashland at present but refuse to give the address for fear enthusiastic well-wishers will call (it's understandable).

## BILL RYMES

As most of you know, Bill has been hospitalized and confined to his home for some time. Bill and Mrs. Rymes had planned to make a trip to San Francisco on Monday, January 6th . . . but on the Tuesday preceding, Bill fractured his hip and was returned to Rogue Valley Hospital where he had surgery on Friday, January 3rd. Mrs. Rymes reports Bill is feeling some better and resting after the surgery.

## CREDIT UNION ANNUAL MEETING

As always at the beginning of each year we have our annual meeting and election of officers to serve for the ensuing year.

The meeting this year will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Black Oak Drive in Medford at 1:30 p.m. on January 26th.

If you are a member, it is your responsibility to attend and voice your opinion in the selection of the new officers and the policy of your organization. You are most cordially invited to attend and learn more about the work of your credit union even though you may not have signed up for membership.

The past year has been very good for the Credit Union and shares are growing constantly, yet 1964 promises to be an even better year.

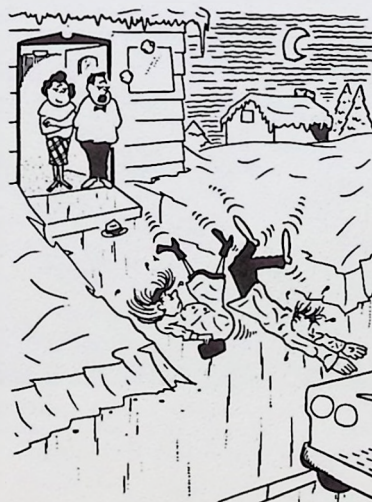
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**FIRST CLASS!**



A boy becomes a man when he walks around a puddle instead of through it.



"Good night—careful driving, now!"

The sawmill crew took care of several hams and turkeys this year the same as last. Some of the fellows remarked that if the turkeys and hams were cooked they would eat them right there.

## TAKES VACATION

Fair weather, sunshine and no rain was reported by Chan Drew from his vacation trip to Death Valley, California. Chan, Mrs. Drew and their son Stephen, who is a forestry student at Oregon State University made the trip to southern climates recently. We were somewhat envious of the "no fog, no rain and 75 to 80 degree temperatures" until it was pointed out that they have their "off-season" also with temperatures climbing to the 120 plus mark and still no rain when it would be most welcome.

We also had a report that Mrs. Bill Buckingham has made a trip out of state to visit her mother.